

1 AN ACT in relation to vehicles.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by adding
5 Section 12-603.2 as follows:

6 (626 ILCS 5/12-603.2 new)

7 Sec. 12-603.2. Children younger than 13 years of age
8 riding in vehicles with passenger side air bags.

9 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
10 Section, a child younger than 13 years of age must ride in
11 the rear seat of any vehicle equipped with a passenger side
12 airbag.

13 (b) A child younger than 13 years of age may be
14 transported in the front seat of a vehicle equipped with a
15 passenger side airbag if any one of the following 4
16 conditions exists:

17 (1) The passenger side airbag has been deactivated.

18 (2) The vehicle has no rear seat or the rear seat
19 is too small to accommodate a rear-facing child restraint
20 system.

21 (3) The number of children in the vehicle makes it
22 impossible to safely seat them all in the rear seat.

23 (4) A child must ride in the front seat because of
24 a medical condition that requires constant supervision.

25 As used in this Section, "child restraint system" means
26 any device that meets the standards of the United States
27 Department of Transportation designed to restrain, seat, or
28 position children.

29 (c) A person who transports a child with a condition to
30 which paragraph (4) of subsection (b) applies must carry a
31 statement from a physician attesting to the child's condition

1 and the need to be constantly supervised.

2 (d) Failure to transport a child in the back seat of a
3 vehicle is not contributory negligence and is not admissible
4 as evidence in the trial of any civil action.

5 (e) No motor vehicle and no driver or passenger of a
6 motor vehicle may be stopped or searched by any law
7 enforcement officer solely on the basis of a violation or
8 suspected violation of this Section.

9 (f) Violation of this Section is a petty offense
10 punishable by a fine of not more than \$50.